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Il Congo. By E. Baccari. xxiv and 769 pp., Maps, Illustrations, Appendixes, and Index. "Rivista Marittima," Rome, 1908. Price, L. 20.

Captain Baccari of the Medical Service of the Italian Navy was sent in 1903 to the regions in the Belgian Congo west of Lakes Tanganyika and Kivu to study the availability of that region for Italian colonization. He collected a great deal of information about the large district, and this sumptuous volume contains the account of his travels from the sea to Central Africa and of his studies there. The book is beautifully illustrated and the maps by the Istituto Geografico de Agostini are excellent.

Im Schatten des Kongostaates. Von Leo Frobenius. ix and 468 pp., 8 Maps, 318 Illustrations, and 33 Tables. Georg Reimer, Berlin, 1907. Price, M. 14.

The Congo-Kassai country is classical ground of German exploration. Pogge and Wissmann first broke through the artificial barrier which the tribes of central Africa had set up against through traffic and trade in order to preserve their trading monopoly; and their successors, most of them also German, practically opened up the Kassai system. What is left to do for modern explorers is the more detailed scientific observation and study of the country and the natives, and for such purposes the author organized his expedition. His report is especially valuable in three respects: the careful topographical work of the expedition and the descriptions and diagrams of a great number of cataracts; the excellent descriptions of the various tribes which the expedition visited, and the frank and sensible remarks on colonial government in that part of Africa, both as it is and as it ought to be. Speaking of the natives, the author firmly believes in observing that barrier between the colored and the white races which makes the latter the master, and the former the servant, because the negro will obey only where he believes in absolute superiority, as he does with regard to his native chiefs, and the attempts of philanthropic civilizers who teach him the equality of all men inevitably destroys all the influence that the white man has over him. This influence must be exerted mainly in the direction of making him work, which is an especially hard task with regard to tribes in which the men are idle and the women do the work. Another great difficulty is the tendency of the negro to lying and deceit, which is especially found among the inhabitants of the forests. It seems as if the instinct of hiding and shooting their arrows from an ambush had entered also into their moral conceptions: whenever they are afraid they hide themselves, as it were, behind a lie. The tribes of the open prairies, on the other hand, fight with the spear, and while their whole gait and demeanour is more frank and outspoken, they are also more honest in their speech. Promises, however, given by any negro whatsoever must never be rated higher than as forms of polite speech used in order not to offend the interlocutor by a refusal; the idea of keeping his word is absolutely foreign to him, and it was one of the elementary lessons that the author taught his black servants that the white man kept his word, and he insists over and over again that there is no other way of making the negro truthful than by giving him the example of it in the conduct of the whites.

It is a great shame and pity that the methods generally used in the dealings of the white man with the negro are so little in accordance with the author's advice and practice, for his experiences go far toward proving how much better a man can get along with the natives by his method than by others. While refusing absolutely to consider or treat the natives as his equals, his attitude